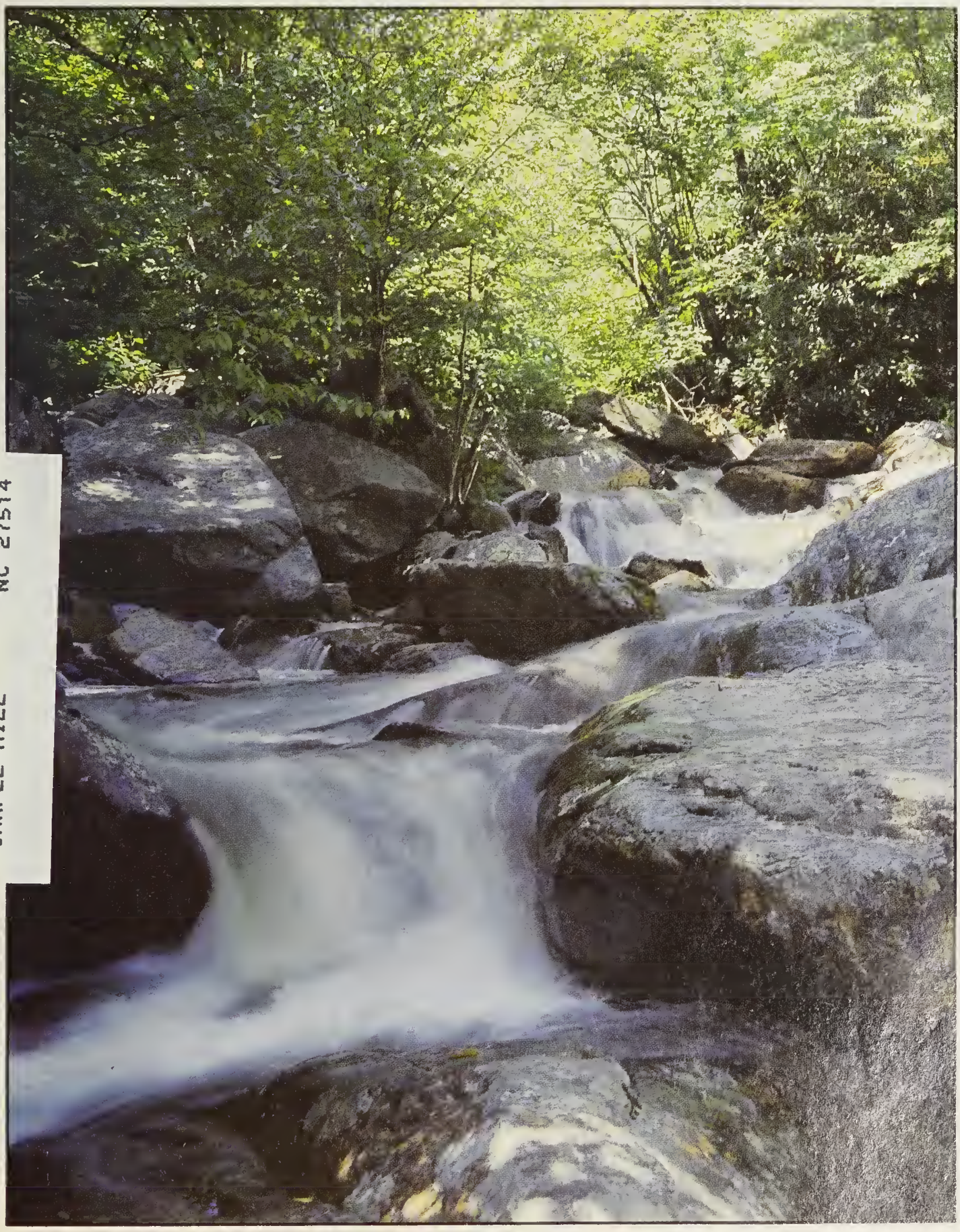
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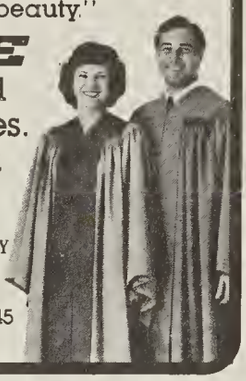
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VIEWPOINT

Catalysts For Economic Development

The following editorial was written by Bob Bergland, executive vice president of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association.

Rural America is grappling with tough economic challenges that have national implications. The countryside's economic and social fabric is fraying, affecting the nation as a whole.

Accustomed to solving tough problems, rural electric cooperatives are at work with business and political leaders in their communities to revitalize sagging local economies.

There are 1,000 of these locally owned systems across the country—a ready-made network of catalysts for economic development.

But to reverse conditions that have brought loss of jobs and people to rural areas is a formidable task. Further complicating these problems are the damaging effects caused by government deregulation of several key industries.

Deregulation of the nation's transportation and communication systems, for instance, may have looked good on the drawing board, but only a few areas of the country have benefited. Rural communities have suffered greatly.

People in small and rural markets are stranded without basic transportation service. Or they're held hostage by exorbitantly high costs and infrequent or nonexistent schedules.

Adding insult to injury, if proposals to privatize the U.S. Postal Service are carried out, small towns and rural areas will be isolated even further. And, moves are afoot to deregulate the electric utility industry, which would change how electricity is generated and sold.

It's time to pause and, before moving on, make sure that radical changes in regulated industries, like electric power, will in fact lead to a better marketplace—one that will not jeopardize service to businesses and consumers.

Why not give the existing electric utility marketplace—one that is already changing on its own—the credit it deserves and then move, slowly but deliberately, to make improvements only where they are shown to be needed?

The reasons for moving in a sober, measured way number in the millions . . . millions of American consumers. Wherever they live, consumers must be able to count on service that is reliable and affordable—be it transportation, communications, mail delivery or electricity.

America's rural electric systems are aware of these tough problems on the national agenda. We're taking them head on.

We're part of the solution.

Co-op Members: Masters of Their Fate

The following is excerpted from an editorial by Gene Clifford, a cooperative consultant with the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association.

Members of rural electric cooperatives have demonstrated for a half-century that the force of a motivated, unafraid individual is a powerful force, indeed. And they have added the further lesson that when such individual forces are locked together and directed against the same problem they are truly irresistible.

It is a world of bigness we live in today. The tides of our time are pushed by power economics, power politics and even swollen governments that seem to have fattened beyond the reach of individuals. It is understandable that such individuals despair of exerting any effect at all on the variety and quality of the many goods produced for their use.

They are sadly confused to see—and to see dimly, at that—that their breakfast foods, car tires, insurance plans, entertainment, medications, household goods and much else very often come to market from the anonymity of the same faceless conglomerate source.

The old-time accountability seems to disappear beyond the corporate clouds.

That isn't the case for rural electric co-op members. Electric service probably affects their lives in more important ways than any of today's numerous goods and services. And in this area, at least, the rural electric member truly is, in the words of the poet, "the master of my fate, the captain of my soul." If he wants to be.

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$24 Million CP&L Rate Hike Will Take Effect On Sept. 2

Carolina Power & Light Company's (CP&L) proposed increase in rates charged to electric cooperatives will take effect on Sept. 2, as a result of a recent ruling by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) in Washington. CP&L had asked that the 12.16 percent rate hike go into effect on April 2.

The FERC, the agency that sets wholesale rates charged by investor-owned utilities, granted a five-month extension requested by the North Carolina Electric Membership Corporation (NCEMC).

NCEMC is the generation and transmission operation of the statewide organization of Electric Membership Corporations.

If the rate hike is granted in full, the cost of power for 18 of the state's EMCs will go up by more than $24 million a year.

The delay will allow NCEMC to develop its formal opposition to the rate increase and permit CP&L and all its wholesale customers to begin negotiating their differences.

"NCEMC will continue to vigorously oppose this rate increase as we sit down with CP&L officials to negotiate," said Jim Hubbard, executive vice president of NCEMC. "We believe the company simply cannot justify an increase of this size."

CP&L is requesting the rate increase to put a portion of the construction costs for the Shearon Harris Nuclear Plant into the company's rate base. Part of these costs were included in an earlier rate hike.

The plant originally was to have four reactors at a cost of $1.1 billion. Upon completion last year, the plant had one reactor with the total price tag of about $3.9 billion.

The CP&L rate hike will be allowed to take effect on Sept. 2, subject to review by the FERC. Under the agency's procedures, wholesale rate increases of this sort are allowed to take effect, with refunds to be made later if the commission rules that the hike is excessive. The extra funds collected by the power company would be refunded with interest.

The EMCs that would be affected by the rate increase are: Brunswick, Shallotte; Carteret-Craven, Morehead City; Central, Sanford; Four County, Burgaw; French Broad, Marshall; Halifax, Enfield; Harkers Island; Haywood, Waynesville; Jones-Onslow, Jacksonville; Lumbee River, Red Springs; Pee Dee, Wadesboro; Piedmont, Hillsborough; Pitt and Greene, Farmville; Randolph, Asheboro; South River, Dunn; Tideland, Pantego; Tri-County, Dudley and Wake, Wake Forest.

Cover: Photo By Alan Westmoreland of Raleigh

Our cover this month features a photo of a cool mountain stream near the Blue Ridge Parkway north of Jefferson. The photo was shot by professional photographer Alan Westmoreland of K.D. Zotter Photography in Raleigh.

Holmes Ends 38-Year Career

Davis Named Manager At Tri-County EMC

J. Michael Davis, a Duplin County native who has spent the past 12 years at Tri-County Electric Membership Corporation (EMC), Dudley, has been named general manager of the EMC.

He succeeds Robert S. Holmes, who has retired after 27 years as the co-op's general manager.

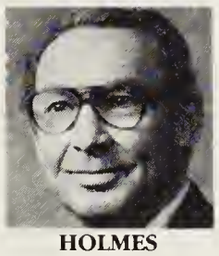
Davis, who assumed his post June 23, had been assistant general manager for the past year.

Previously, he was office manager for six years and an accountant for six years prior to that.

Davis holds a bachelor of science degree in business administration from East Carolina University. In 1970, as a high school student, he represented Jones-Onslow EMC, Jacksonville, in the Rural Electric Youth Tour to Washington, a program sponsored by the statewide organization of EMCs.



DAVIS



HOLMES

Holmes, who was employed by Tri-County EMC for 38 years, joined the co-op in 1950 as an accountant. He was later named assistant general manager before becoming general manager in 1961.

Tri-County EMC serves more than 14,000 consumer-members in Wayne, Duplin, Lenoir, Johnston, Sampson and Wilson Counties.

Southern States Veteran Takes Reins Of Co-op's North Carolina Division

Charles Wood of Richmond, a veteran of 18 years with Southern States Cooperative, has been named regional manager of the farm and home cooperative's North Carolina operations.

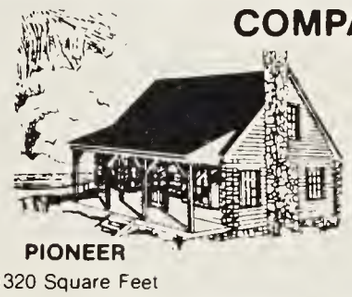
He succeeds W. W. (Bill) Goulding, who has headed the division since early 1986, when Southern States took over the facilities of FCX.

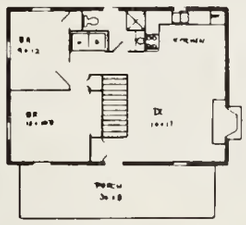
Wood, an economics graduate of Virginia Tech, began his Southern States career at Charlestown, WV in 1970. Following military service, he served in positions of increasing responsibility at Leesburg, Calverton and Purcellville, all in Virginia. In 1977, he was named a field supervisor and later became operations supervisor at Winchester, VA.

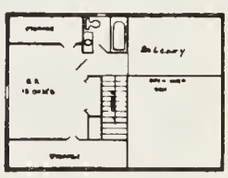
In 1982, he became a regional supervisor in the Delmarva Peninsula, and was promoted to the Richmond home office in 1985. He has been human resources director since 1987.

The North Carolina Division is headquartered in Raleigh. The cooperative also serves Virginia, West Virginia, Kentucky, Maryland and Delaware.

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Shoot The Rapids!

Riding The Rivers and Streams Across North Carolina

Almost every theme park in the Southeastern United States boasts a "shoot the rapids" ride where visitors can twirl on man-made rapids in some sort of floating device.

Yet the mountains of North Carolina boast the real thing: miles of rapids, with some smooth stretches in between, where vacationers can find real excitement on chilly mountain rivers.

In 1987 just one of these, the Nantahala River, attracted more than 160,000 people who wanted the thrill of shooting some of Mother Nature's rapids. Some weekends saw more than 4,000 floating the Nantahala on a single Saturday or Sunday.

People who want this thrill have several options. They can, of course, take along their own rubber rafts or other craft—including canoes—and launch themselves on the fast-moving stream. And there are a number of rental facilities where they can pay their money for a day or longer period.

It doesn't actually take long to cruise the stream. The "run-able" section is only eight miles long, as determined by the U.S. Forest Service which controls river usage, and an average "shoot the rapids" trip takes only four hours, including the smooth parts.

One major operator on the river, Nantahala Rafts of Bryson City, offers a unique service. Experienced rafters can rent the proper size of rubber rafts and other needed equipment—including wet suits—at a modest fee. But for those who don't want to chance the trip alone, Nantahala Rafts provides escorted river trips along with the equipment.

Keith Maddox, who operates the raft service, says "We find that lots of folks want our experienced guides along, even though they're going for the thrill of the ride. We can usually accommodate them."

The U.S. Forest Service has its own requirements for rafters. On the Nantahala River, participants must weigh at least 60 pounds. On the nearby Oconee River, they must be at least 12 years of age. And on the Big Wesser, you can't shoot the rapids until you're 18 years old—male or female.

No alcohol or drugs are allowed on any of the streams. And you can't take your plastic drink cooler on the rafts.

The Nantahala and other nearby streams might be just the place for a raft ride during hot weather. The water stays at a cool 50 degrees year around—and you can count on getting splashed when you shoot a rapid.

Interestingly, the water is no colder during winter. The Nantahala, tributary of the Little Tennessee River, is drawn through underground conduits from the bottom of Nantahala Lake—which keeps it at 50 degrees at all times.

Nantahala is a Cherokee word meaning "Land of the Noonday Sun." The Indian nation called it this because the deep gorges, steep mountains and frequent fogs on the river prevent the sunlight from reaching the stream until almost noon.

Despite the influx in recent years of highways, bridges, railroads and private dwellings in the mountain area, the Nantahala River itself retains its wilderness aspect because of the thousands of acres of U.S. Forest Service woodland and steep banks along the route of the river. Frequent changes in vegetation and terrain are part of the eight-mile trip, which draws thousands each year.

The escorted raft trip service is available from May to October, with seven-day trips available starting in June. Advance reservations are recommended, since bookings fill up rapidly.

Numerous restaurants and lodging places are located in the area. But for many in the western part of North Carolina, as well as Tennessee, Georgia and South Carolina, the Nantahala is within one day's drive.

For more information about Nantahala Rafts, write to Keith Maddox, U.S. Highway 19W, Box 45, Bryson City, N.C. 28713. Phone: (704) 488-2325.

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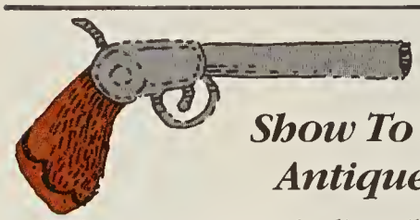
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HERE, THERE & EVERYWHERE



Show To Feature Antique Guns

Antique weapons and relics will be featured at the 5th Annual Carolina Antique Only Gun and Civil War Show, Aug. 27-28, in Greensboro.

The show, sponsored by the Col. John Sloan Camp, #1290, will showcase numerous antique Civil War items in addition to other valuable guns and weapons.

Frederick R. Edmunds, noted Confederate weapons collector from New York, will be on hand to display his collection.

The show will be held at the Depot, 300 E. Washington St., and run from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. the first day; from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. the second. Admission is $3.50 for adults and $2 for children under 12.

For more information, write to the Carolina Antique Gun Show, 251-A N. Greene St., Greensboro, NC 27401. Phone: (919) 274-4758.



Black and Decker Recalls Trimmers

Black and Decker (U.S.), Inc., has announced a voluntary recall of about 500,000 of its Bump-Feed Grass/Weed String Trimmers.

The units subject to recall are Model 82209 (Type 1 and 2) and Model 82210 (Type 1 and 2).

Due to improper assembly, the wiring in some of these units may be cut by the end of the handle tube, resulting in an electric shock hazard.

The hazard can occur while the units are being operated or when they are simply plugged in but not in use, according to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission.

Owners of these trimmers are advised to discontinue using them immediately and return them to a Black and Decker Service Center listed in the Yellow Pages under "Tools—Electric."

For information about locations of such centers or further assistance, call the company between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. weekdays on the following toll-free number: (800) 533-4395. Or, write to the company at P.O. Box 857, Hunt Valley, MD 21030.

Craft Show To Be Held In Foscoe

Blue Ridge Hearthside has scheduled a summer crafts show in Foscoe, Aug. 12-14.

The show, which will be held at Blue Ridge's parking lot, will feature works by various craftsmen and artists.

For more information contact Blue Ridge at (704) 963-7077.

9 Incumbents Re-elected To 3 EMC Boards

A total of nine incumbents have been re-elected to the Boards of Directors of three North Carolina Electric Membership Corporations (EMCs) during recent co-op annual meetings.

- **French Broad EMC,** Marshall—Re-elected were John L. Chandler of Mars Hill, B. Hayes Byrd of Rt. 2, Bakersville and Carl O. Ramsey of Rt. 1, Flag Pond, TN.
- **Harkers Island EMC**—Re-elected were Oliver Griffin of Harkers Island, Leland W. Yeomans of Harkers Island and Richard A. Lewis of Harkers Island.
- **Piedmont EMC,** Hillsborough—Re-elected were Richard C. Roberts of Rt. 1, Hillsborough, Alva H. Clayton of Rt. 1, Timberlake and J. Douglas Simmons of Rt. 2, Elon College.

Meanwhile, new directors have been named to the boards of three other EMCs, filling vacancies on those bodies:

- **Roanoke EMC,** Rich Square—Raymond Harrell of Rt. 1, Jackson, was appointed to fill a board seat left vacant due to the death of Harbie C. Martin of Rt. 1, Jackson. Martin, who served on the EMC's board for 25 years, died last December.
- **Halifax EMC,** Enfield—Thomas E. Bazemore of Enfield was appointed to the board, succeeding A. C. Cox Jr. of Rt. 3, Enfield, who retired after 37 years of service. Cox, who was president of the board for many years, has been named the co-op's first Director Emeritus.
- **Surry-Yadkin EMC,** Dobson—James Aubrey Jones of Rt. 2, Pilot Mountain, has been named to the board, filling the unexpired term of the late W. E. Collins of Rt. 2, Westfield. Collins, who served on the board for 25 years, died in January.

Art Show Sale Set For Aug. 13-14



The Ashe County Blue Ridge Art Clan Show and Sale will be held Aug. 13-14 at the Springs Inn in Glendale.

The show, which will run from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. each day, will showcase fine crafts and other artistic items.

HERE, THERE & EVERYWHERE

New Exhibits To Open At Museum of Art

Two exhibitions are slated to open in July at the North Carolina Museum of Art in Raleigh.

"Paintings from the San Francisco Area," featuring works by eight artists who shaped Bay Area art in the 1950s through the 1970s, will run from July 27 through Sept. 4.

In addition, 20 bird prints from a four-volume collection published in the 1830s by John James Audubon will be displayed from July 23 through Oct. 2.

The N.C. Museum of Art is open daily except Monday: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Friday and Sunday noon to 5 p.m. Admission is free.

For more information, write to the museum at 2110 Blue Ridge Rd., Raleigh, NC 27607. Phone: (919) 833-1935.

Currituck County To Host Craft Fair

A wide variety of crafts will be featured at the Currituck County Craft Fair, Aug. 13-14.

The fair, which is sponsored by the Currituck Extension Homemakers Association, will take place at the Currituck High School lobby and cafeteria. The fair will run from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. the first day, and from noon to 5 p.m. the second.

Admission is $1 for adults and 50 cents for children under 12.

For more information, call the Currituck County Extension Office at (919) 435-6888.

EMC Manager On National Committee

The manager of Four County Electric Membership Corporation, Burgaw, has been named to a National Rural Electric Cooperative Association committee that is studying rate issues affecting the nation's electric co-ops.

Edward E. Brown Jr., a veteran of 20 years in the rural electric program, is the only representative of North Carolina co-ops on the 12-member panel.

The committee will prepare a report addressing the various factors that co-op directors need to consider when making policies regarding rates.

Two Conservation Awards Presented

A McDowell County school teacher and the Wake County Soil and Water Conservation District have received statewide awards for their efforts in promoting soil and water conservation awareness.

The awards were presented by the Duetz-Allis Corporation and the National Association of Conservation Districts.

Beverly Foster, who teaches at North Cove Elementary School in Marion, was named as North Carolina's Conservation Education Teacher of the Year. She was cited for her use of outdoor classrooms, visual aids and a series of conservation field trips which raised the consciousness of her students to conservation concerns.

The Wake district, one of 94 in the state, received the state's Outstanding Soil and Water Conservation Education Award for its education workshops, school projects and teacher workshops.

Over 2,000 students have been reached by the district's 70 school presentations. Its 25 meetings have helped over 1,000 farmers write their conservation plans.

Both Foster and the Wake district will next compete in regional contests covering 10 southeastern states.

Continued on page 10

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HERE, THERE & EVERYWHERE

Continued from page 9

New Directory Lists Various Craft Shows

Craftsmen seeking outlets for their work can now obtain a directory listing the various craft shows in North Carolina.

The *1988 North Carolina Craft Show Directory* lists 150 craft shows in 60 counties. Each entry includes the time, place and other key information about each event, including fees.

The softcover booklet was edited by Beverly Kendall of Rt. 2, Wadesboro, who has been exhibiting her own crafts at shows for several years.

Mrs. Kendall, who is a consumer-member of Pee Dee Electric Membership Corporation, Wadesboro, is offering the booklet by mail for $8, including postage and handling. For a copy, write to N.C. Craft Show Directory, P.O. Box 887, Norwood, NC 28128.



Quilt Fest Set In Hendersonville

The Sixth Annual Apple Festival Quilt Fest will be held Aug. 26-28 at the Immaculate Conception School in Hendersonville.

Sponsored by the Tarheel Piecemakers, the show will run from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. the first two days and from 1-5 p.m. the final day. The show will feature exhibits, demonstrations and dealers.

Admission is $1 for adults, with children under 12 admitted without charge.

The Apple Quilt Block Contest will also be held in conjunction with the show. All entries must include an apple motif in the pattern. For more information on the competition, send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to Tarheel Piecemakers, P.O. Box 754, Mountain Home, NC 28758.

Folkmoot USA Set To Return July 29-Aug. 7

Folkmoot USA, North Carolina's international folk festival, will run from July 29 through Aug. 7 in Western North Carolina.

The festival, which will feature 11 international folk dancing groups, will be showcased July 29, Aug. 3 and Aug. 7 at the Stompin' Ground in Maggie Valley. Nightly performances are scheduled at various locations: Canton, Lake Junaluska, Maggie Valley and Waynesville.

Admission to the opening and closing of the festival is $10 for general admission and $15 for reserved seating. All other performances are $6 for adults and $2 for children.

For more information, write to Folkmoot USA, P.O. Box 523, Waynesville, NC 28786. Phone: (704) 452-2997.



Shrimp Festival Set For Aug. 13

A parade, a shrimperoo and various crafts will be featured at the 1988 Shrimp Festival at Sneads Ferry, Aug. 13.

For more information, write or call Ms. Bernice Guthrie, Rt. 1, Box 13, Sneads Ferry, NC 28460. Phone: 327-4911.

Four Tar Heel Schools Get National Honors

Four North Carolina elementary schools have been named winners in the U.S. Department of Education's 1987-88 School Recognition Program.

The winners included 230 public and 57 private schools and represent every state except Delaware and South Dakota.

The Tar Heel schools honored in the program were Cherokee Elementary School in Cherokee, Elon College Elementary School in Elon College, First Ward Elementary School in Charlotte and Stone Street Elementary School at Camp Lejeune.

Historical Play Being Performed In Hillsborough

"The Twelfth Lantern," a play by Nancy Wallace Henderson of Chapel Hill, will be featured July 22-24, as part of the Celebration of Hillsborough.

The three-day event will commemorate the bicentennial of the 1788 Hillsborough Convention, in which delegates discussed whether North Carolina should ratify the U.S. Constitution.

The play recreates the events surrounding the convention.

In addition to the play, Hillsborough will host a Town Fair, July 23, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., at the Courthouse Square. Crafts, food and entertainment will be featured.

Admission to the play is $5 for adults and $3 for children under 12.

For more information about the play or the Town Fair, contact the Hillsborough Chamber of Commerce at (919) 732-8156.

Summer Dramas Now Offering Free Tickets

North Carolina boasts some of the nation's outstanding summer dramas, many of them presented under the stars. And North Carolina residents 60 and older have an opportunity to enjoy many of them at no cost.

The list is headed by Paul Green's famed play, "The Lost Colony," presented at the Waterfront Theatre on Roanoke Island. A total of 80 free tickets are available, on Friday nights only. This runs through Aug. 26.

Some of the other choices which cover all areas of North Carolina:

"Horn in the West," Boone. Any day, except Monday, through Aug. 20.

"The Liberty Cart," Kenansville. 100 tickets per performance; Thursday, Friday and Saturday, through Aug. 27.

"Unto These Hills," Cherokee. 100 tickets per performance through Aug. 27, Monday through Friday.

"From This Day Forward," Valdese. 25 to 50 free tickets. Aug. 18, at 8:15 p.m.

"The Sword of Peace," Snow Camp. 100 free tickets per performance. The drama is presented each Thursday, Friday and Saturday during the month of July.

The Parkway Playhouse at Burnsville offers 25 free tickets for a series of productions through Aug. 3.

The musical "Oklahoma!" will be presented at Halifax through July 31, with 100 free tickets available.

East Carolina Summer Theatre has 25 free tickets for performances of a series of plays in McGinnis Theatre.

The Charlotte Shakespeare Company will present two plays at UNC-Charlotte, with 150 free tickets available.

Other plays offered under the free-ticket program will be presented in Flat Rock and Mars Hill.

The program, the Governor's Complimentary Ticket Program, is arranged by the N.C. Arts Council, the N.C. Department of Cultural Resources and the N.C. Division of Aging.

The complimentary tickets are available for North Carolina residents who are 60 or older. For information about the program, write or call: E. Wayne White, Program Manager, N.C. Division of Aging, 1985 Umstead Drive, Raleigh, NC 27603. Phone: (919) 733-3983.

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$100 Million Investment Pool To Aid State's Rural Businesses

Rural economic growth will receive a shot in the arm soon with the creation of a $100 million loan and investment pool to help finance small and medium sized businesses.

Geared to aid businesses in the 91 North Carolina counties without a city over 50,000, the North Carolina Enterprise Corporation (NCEC), a private, for-profit organization, has received praise from state officials and representatives from leading financial institutions.

The NCEC will use the sale of stock, state-invested money and lines of credit with participating financial institutions to establish the $100 million pool. A governing board of directors will administer the fund.

"This new initiative gives us a powerful tool for restoring economic vigor in our rural communities," said William Friday, chairman of the N.C. Rural Economic Development Center's board of directors, at a recent news conference unveiling the venture. "With this merger effort, the Rural Center, the public sector and the private sector join together in a solid concentrated action to help ensure a bright future in rural North Carolina."

Vincent Lowe, president of BB&T and president-elect of the N.C. Bankers Association, endorsed the NCEC, saying it would allow the banks to play a much greater role in meeting the needs of the state's economy.

"Until now, if a local bank could not meet all the financing needs of a sound business idea, it had to say no," said Lowe. "Now, the bank has a place to turn; it no longer has to say no. This is good for the business, good for the banking system and good for North Carolina."

A recent study done by the Rural Center revealed that equity capital is in short supply across rural North Carolina and not capable of meeting the demands of rapidly growing, expanding or restructuring small and medium-sized firms.

"Banks cannot provide that kind of growth capital . . . that new businesses so often need. This problem is particularly acute in rural areas," said Lowe. "Through the Enterprise Corporation, banks across the state can play a much greater role in meeting the needs of the North Carolina economy."

The NCEC comes at a time when rural areas are experiencing a decline in traditional manufacturing jobs, loss of small farms and increasing global economic competition. Loans from the NCEC will be offered as soon as possible to businessmen trying to provide new opportunities and new jobs in rural areas.

"There is at least a possibility that the Enterprise Corporation will be up and running by fall," said Billy Ray Hall, president of the Rural Center.

"There are still many bridges to cross, but considering that we've come this far in four months, we might just be able to have an operating corporation before the end of 1988."



Billy Ray Hall (center), president of the N.C. Rural Economic Development Center, fields questions during a recent news conference announcing the $100 million investment pool for rural businesses. William Friday (left), chairman of the Rural Center, and Vincent Lowe (right), president-elect of the N.C. Bankers Association, were also involved in the announcement.

In Alleghany County

EMC Boosts Industrial Park

An investment partnership between Blue Ridge Electric Membership Corporation (EMC), Lenoir, and Alleghany County could spur economic growth in the area over the next decade.

Under the agreement, the EMC will invest $50,000 in a $400,000 project which seeks to create an industrial park on about 90 acres of land in Sparta.

Blue Ridge EMC's investment will be returned to the cooperative as parcels of land in the park are sold.

"We want to do more than just provide reliable electric service," said Wayne D. Keller, executive vice president of Blue Ridge EMC. "We want to help improve the quality of life for the people we serve."

The EMC's investment in the industrial park is an example of electric cooperatives becoming more involved in the economic growth of local areas.

"Blue Ridge's involvement in the economic development of Alleghany County shows in their support for the industrial park and efforts in improving the county's infrastructure," said William C. (Bud) Cohoon, director of economic and community development for the statewide EMC organization. "Blue Ridge's efforts in this new endeavor reflect the most current thinking in community development."

The industrial park, which would be served by Blue Ridge EMC, will bring additional jobs to Alleghany County. The new businesses will also bring the EMC new industrial loads, which will spread out some of the EMC's costs and help hold down rates for all Blue Ridge EMC consumer-members.

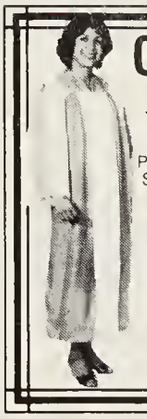
"We know more and better jobs pave the way for other good things that can happen for existing businesses, families, schools and other services in a community," said Russell Sheets, Alleghany district manager for Blue Ridge EMC. "Our board of directors and management feel we have a clear signal from our members to step up our support efforts."

At the EMC's 1987 annual meeting, the co-op's membership adopted a resolution supporting economic development efforts in northwestern North Carolina.

Sheets also said that an industrial park was needed in the area, and in order to help economic growth, the EMC should get involved.

"The park is a necessity to attract any industrial opportunity that comes along," he said. Sheets added that Blue Ridge EMC will also work with the county in the actual development of the park—a further example of the co-op's commitment to provide more support to local economic development efforts.

"When people work together, they can accomplish almost anything, including improving their quality of life," said Keller. "Blue Ridge EMC is demonstrating this belief by working with local leaders to develop better economies throughout northwestern North Carolina."



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SHIIP Volunteers Help Calm Turbulent Insurance Waters

Even for the well-informed, insurance questions can be tricky and confusing, often leaving consumers wondering where to turn for answers.

For the nearly one million senior citizens in North Carolina, those concerns are magnified at a time when the need for adequate coverage is great and funds for insurance premiums are limited.

Many elderly citizens rely on Medicare for their insurance needs. But how much does Medicare cover? What doesn't it cover?

Questions like these led the North Carolina Department of Insurance to establish the Senior Health Insurance Information Program (SHIIP) in 1986. The program conducts classes throughout the state at sponsored locations to train volunteers on giving unbiased advice to senior citizens with insurance problems.

Two years later, with over 1,000 people now trained, the SHIIP program is crusading alone to clear up some of the confusion over insurance programs, and give some peace of mind to consumers in need.

Mickey Hanula, assistant to the Insurance Commissioner, said the program is in greater demand now than it was when it started.

"We've got a high percentage of people on Medicare who think that Medicare will pay for everything," said Hanula. "It won't. When they get hit with a bill, they don't understand why."

Under the SHIIP program, volunteers can be on hand to answer such questions.

The program involves an 18-hour training session which is offered at various locations around the state to inform people about some of the complexities of insurance. These classes allow volunteers to be better informed on such matters, and to help senior citizens with their concerns and questions.

About 70 counties have held SHIIP classes, Hanula said, adding that the goal of the program is to be in all 100 counties as soon as possible.

Carteret-Craven Electric Membership Corporation (EMC), Morehead City, sponsored a SHIIP program last year.

Some who take the SHIIP course are neither elderly nor volunteers.

Hanula said that people who handle insurance for a business often take the course so they can offer more help to employees at work.

The course is open to anyone except licensed insurance agents.

Hall Volunteers Time To Aid Fellow Seniors

Ellen Hall of Stedman is one of the almost 900 North Carolina SHIIP volunteers.

Hall, a consumer-member of South River EMC, Dunn, became interested in the program after helping an elderly friend with her financial matters a few years ago.

She said she became upset after hearing that the friend had been paying insurance premiums on numerous policies over the years—and many of them did not provide the kinds of coverage she bought them for.

After seeing a newspaper article about the program, she contacted the Department of Insurance and took the initial SHIIP course in Wake County. Her efforts later helped bring a SHIIP course to Cumberland County.

Hall, who is retired, said the program is needed by many senior citizens. She said many of the people she has counseled have been well-educated people who "just haven't studied insurance."

She admitted there are still a great many senior citizens who could benefit from the program, but do not come forward with questions.

"Many people don't know what Medicare will pay for them," she said. "They just know they apply for it and take what they can get. The need for the program is great. However, the people who really need it the worst don't get the information."

SHIIP volunteers do not make recommendations on specific policies and will not try to influence the decisions of the people they counsel.



Hall said she tries to spell out what a particular person's policies cover and don't cover—and where those policies overlap.

Many senior citizens have simply too much coverage, she added. Hall and Hanula both cited instances where senior citizens had paid for up to five supplemental policies at the same time—draining precious limited incomes dry.

For further details about the SHIIP program or information concerning a course offering in your area, contact SHIIP at the N.C. Department of Insurance, P.O. Box 26387, Raleigh, NC 27611. Phone toll-free: (800) 443-9354.

MAILBOX

Column On Hearing Aids: "Very Helpful"

I was impressed by the factual way that the information on hearing aids was presented in your May issue. I think that more presentation of this type would be very helpful to people who have not had any exposure to the subject of hearing aids. I would like to use copies of your article to show to some of our patients as an example of what a hearing aid user might expect.

I appreciate your interest.

N. L. Sparrow, M.D.
Raleigh

Magazine's New Look: "Very Pretty"

I sure enjoy your publication. The new look is very pretty.

Mrs. Clifton Ashburn
Rt. 1, Siloam

For Timely Magazine Recipes, Publish Them "Ahead of Time"

In your May editorial ("Letter From The Editor"), you discussed issues containing recipes that were received too late to be used for that season. Early mailing might help, but why not put Thanksgiving recipes in the October—rather than November—issue and Christmas recipes in the November issue rather than the December issue? This way, the recipes would come ahead of time and grocery shopping could be done during a regular shopping trip instead of a special trip, thus saving gas and time. (I do my grocery shopping once every two weeks.)

Carol Helger
Rt. 1, Tryon

Thanks for the suggestion. We may do just that, due to our continuing problems related to getting the magazine delivered in a timely manner.

Magazine: "Just Great!"

Carolina Country is just great!! I look forward to your timely topics in each issue.

The last several issues have pointed out what is being done and what needs to be done in rural North Carolina to assist with economic development. Thank you for making us, your readers, more aware.

We at Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute work hand in glove with Blue Ridge Electric Membership Corporation, Lenoir, in many economic development efforts.

We appreciate you, your magazine and all the good electric co-ops in North Carolina.

Gene Carpenter, Dean, Continuing Education
Caldwell Community College
and Technical Institute, Lenoir





"3-In-1" Spuds

Bake 'em, Boil 'em or Fry 'em

What is a "Three-In-One" potato? There are two answers to this question, and neither one has anything to do with a can of oil that was once a popular product for lubricating machinery.

First, this "Three-In-One" is a premium quality Irish potato, produced in North Carolina and actively promoted by the N.C. Potato Council and the N.C. Department of Agriculture (NCDA).

The "Three-In-One" name came about because the spuds are equally suitable for baking, boiling or frying.

Second, this premium potato is being featured by grocery stores throughout North Carolina. The potato sale began in June and is continuing in July, to acquaint Tar Heel shoppers with the qualities of the "Three-In-One" potato.

An impressive list of grocery stores is participating, according to Wayne Miller, director of the NCDA Division of Marketing. A & P, Byrd's, Food Lion, Harris, Ingles, I.G.A. stores, Lowe's, Piggly-Wiggly and Winn-Dixie are all cooperating in the potato promotion program.

The potatoes, selected for quality, are packed in distinctive bags. Each potato farmer has his name on the bags in which he packs his potatoes; the NCDA provides the bags at bulk rates.

The idea behind the promotion is to get North Carolinians—and folks in other states as well—to try the special potatoes in all three ways.

As part of the promotion, Frito-Lay—which has a plant in Charlotte—will buy 12 million pounds of North Carolina potatoes for use in making chips. The snacks will be packaged in specially-marked bags identifying them as having been made from Tar Heel spuds.

The potato program is the latest in NCDA's efforts to stir new interest in North Carolina products.

The entire program is part of the two-year-old "Goodness Grows in North Carolina" program, which now has 97 participating producers.

"The 'Three-In-One' potato is an excellent product that I encourage consumers to purchase and enjoy," said Commissioner of Agriculture Jim Graham. "Boiled, baked or fried, you can't beat the taste of these fresh potatoes from your neighbors, and you're helping farmers right here in North Carolina every time you buy a bag."

Even One-Degree Adjustment In Air Conditioner's Setting Can Help Reduce Power Costs

Many North Carolinians are looking for ways to keep their electric bills in line while staying comfortable.

Dr. Sandra Dellinger, extension housing specialist at NCSU, offers suggestions on efficient use of room air conditioners.

Even slight adjustments of the thermostat make a difference. For example, a one-degree upturn in the setting can lead to a 2 to 5 percent drop in the electric bill.

What about turning the air conditioner off during short absences from the house?

This question is debated every year. The answer depends on the mass of the house and how quickly things cool down. For room air conditioners, one hour is a good cut-off point.

A $120 electric bill is just $3 a day for electricity and many North Carolina families spend more than $3 a day at a vending machine or snack shop.

Another important question deals with high-cool, low-cool and fan settings. The difference between high and low cool has to do with fan speed, a very minor factor in electric costs.

High-cool circulates the air more forcefully and may save you money if it allows you to raise the thermostat setting.

To put your electric bill in perspective, you might want to compare the daily cost of electricity with the daily cost of snacks in your family.

A $120 electric bill is just $3 a day for electricity, and many North Carolina families spend more than $3 a day at a vending machine or snack shop.

PINS AND NEEDLES



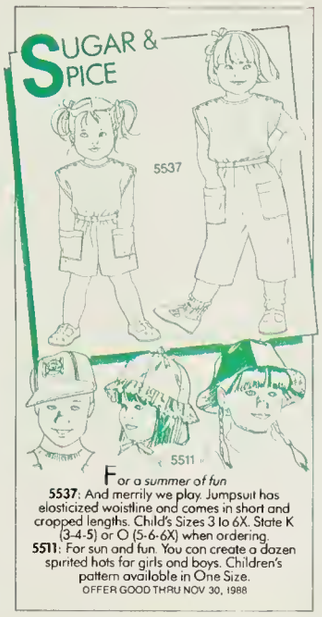
Dressing in parts
5530: On the go separates. Five easy pieces, pull-on skirt, pants and shorts, loosefitting unlined jacket and top. For top use knits only. Misses Sizes 8 to 20. State KK (8-10-12-14) or RR (14-16-18-20) when ordering.
4168: Cool duo. Side tied top and elastic waist skirt are easy to sew. Each has one main pattern piece. Misses Sizes 12 to 18

OFFER GOOD THRU NOV 30, 1988



Lovely to look at.
5531: Feminine flair. Pullover dress has elastic waist and flared gored skirt. Pattern has adjustment lines for Miss petite sizes. State KK (8-10-12-14) or OO (12-14-16-18) when ordering.
4003: Fancy this! Face framing cape collar has lace edging. Dress can be made sleeveless or with long sleeves. Misses Sizes 8 to 18.

OFFER GOOD THRU NOV 30, 1988



For a summer of fun
5537: And merrily we play. Jumpsuit has elasticized waistline and comes in short and cropped lengths. Child's Sizes 3 to 6X. State K (3-4-5) or O (5-6-6X) when ordering.
5511: For sun and fun. You can create a dozen spirited hats for girls and boys. Children's pattern available in One Size.

OFFER GOOD THRU NOV 30, 1988



Elegant crocheted overblouses add femininity to your wardrobe.
565: Delicate openwork yoke and cuffs accent this fabulous blouson. Designed for larger sizes, to be made of bedspread or pompadour; Women's Sizes 38-48.
7572: Dainty lacy neckline tops easy to crochet shells. Blouse is worked from the neck down in one piece. Use bedspread cotton. Directions Sizes 8-14

OFFER GOOD THRU NOV. 30, 1988



Classic Separates
5519: Workday to weekend shirt, a great wardrobe basic. Choose from three sleeve versions. Misses Sizes 10 to 20. State N (10-12-14) or U (16-18-20) when ordering
5521: Looking for weekend comfort? Look no further pants, culottes, shorts and skirt have back elastic casing. State N (10-12-14) or U (16-18-20) when ordering

OFFER GOOD THRU NOV. 30, 1988

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COUNTRY KITCHEN

Zucchini Soup

Submitted by Mrs. Maggie Stone, Middlesex

1 lb. sausage (hot or mild) or hamburger
2 C. celery (chopped)
2 lbs. zucchini (sliced in 1/2" pieces
1 C. onion (chopped)
2 cans (28 oz.) tomatoes
2 bell peppers (chopped)
1 tsp. Italian seasoning
2 tsp. salt
1 tsp. oregano
1 tsp. sugar
1/2 tsp. basil
1/4 tsp. garlic powder

Brown sausage and drain excess fat. Add celery and cook 10 minutes. Add remaining ingredients and simmer 30 minutes. Sprinkle soup with Parmesan cheese (optional) and serve with garlic bread. (Makes 3½ quarts.)

Would You Like To Share Your Recipes?

If you would like to share a recipe with this column, send it to: *Carolina Country,* P.O. Box 27306, Raleigh, North Carolina 27611.

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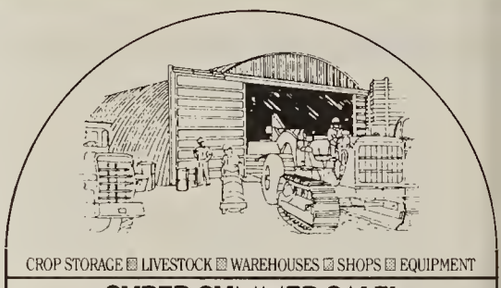
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Passion Play Runs Through Sept. 5

A musical Passion Play, "Worthy Is the Lamb," is being presented nightly through Labor Day at the Crystal Coast Amphitheatre at Cape Carteret.

The play, written and composed by Emerald Isle's J.T. Adams, depicts the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

The production features period costumes, ships, horses and chariots.

The Crystal Coast Amphitheatre, a 2,000-seat outdoor facility, is situated alongside the water to enhance its natural setting and to provide a setting for scenes at the Sea of Galilee in the production.

Performances are scheduled nightly at 8:30 p.m.

Tickets are $8 for adults and $5 for children under 12.

Prices do not include North Carolina sales tax. Discounts are available to senior citizens, military personnel and groups of 25 or more.

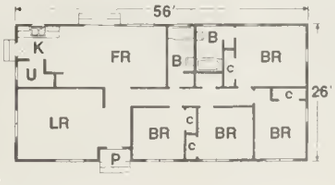
For additional ticket information, call or write the Crystal Coast Passion Play at P.O. Box 1004, Swansboro, NC 28584. Phone (919) 393-8373.

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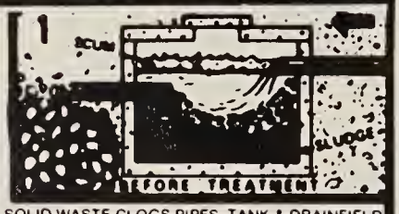
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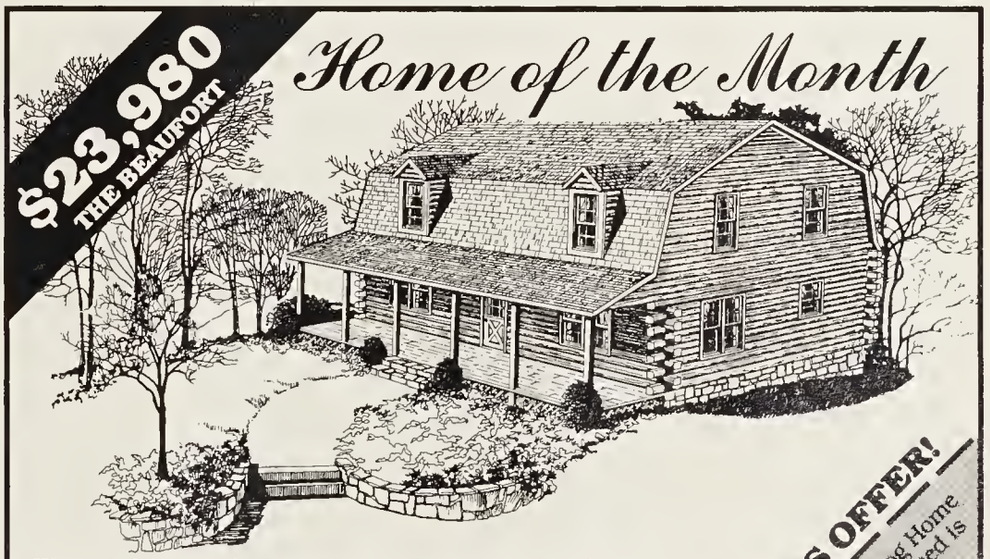
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Planning For Retirement
— Part II —

Without The Daily Grind, Enjoy Setting Your Own Leisurely Pace

Our examination of planning for retirement focused last month on financial matters.

This month, we turn our attention to other critical questions that need to be considered as retirement approaches:

Should I move to a retirement community, perhaps in Florida? Will my spouse and I be able to get along without work to separate us each day? How will I spend my free time after giving up the regular grind? Should I do volunteer service or continue working for money if the opportunity arises?

Most people thinking about retirement think in terms of money and future lifestyle, even when the "occasion" involves that big farewell party with lots of gifts. Most folks don't really regard retirement in terms of the comfortable rocking chair and the afternoon nap.

But there is a lot to consider in addition to the attention that must be paid to future income and mode of living. Some people don't know how to retire.

In one case, an employee with 36 years of government service retired, his last working day being a Friday. Did he ease into his new lifestyle?

Not at all. With his wife's backing, and with a son serving in the military in Germany, the first order of business was to get packed and catch a plane to Germany on Sunday for an extended visit over there.

What was the hurry? He was going to be retired for the rest of his life.

When he returned, the former employee went right down to his former office to see how things were running. And he did this almost every day for months.

In another case, the husband retired as southeast manager of a large firm. Somehow he and his wife were impressed that you must "retire to Florida," even though they had visited that state only three or four times. So they sold their comfortable house in North Carolina, pulled up stakes and headed for Sarasota.

For two years, they pretended to be very happy.

"We're meeting lots of new friends," they would say. But they missed their old friends. They missed his civic club and her bridge group. They missed their friends in church. They didn't even like their new doctor and dentist as well as they had the familiar ones back in North Carolina.

But when they came back and tried to buy back their old house, at a greatly increased price, it was "no sale." The new owners liked it, too. They also had trouble selling their Sarasota house, even though it had a fancy "Florida room."

So they stayed put until first one and then the other died. When he died, he hadn't put his new boat in the water for about three years.

The moral of this story is simple. When you retire, make changes very slowly and after careful thought. If you always wanted to retire to the beach or to the mountains, try it first by renting—out of season. Once you move, you're there year-round.

Think about your friends, your kinfolks, your many connections. Do you really want to get away from all this?

Another important consideration is thinking about what you want to do after you give up the daily grind. The story goes that a man said he was going to sit in his rocking chair for the first six months. What then? "After six months, I'm going to begin rocking a little."

Some males retire while their younger wives are still hard at work. And even when both can technically retire, duties at home often keep the wife fully occupied, often for years.

Ideally, both will have something to do. This can be volunteer work, for a church or other useful place, or it can be part-time work for money. A useful slogan is: "Retire, but don't quit." Unless illness or infirmity dictate a limited pace, people will be happier when occupied. The time involved is less important than the fact that you spend it doing something.

Of course, some retirees need to make money to go with their retirement income, just to maintain the standard of living. And some folks often just can't quit completely. A farmer, for example, may turn operation of the farm over to younger hands, but he may be proud to say: "Yes, I help my son every day."

The main point is that we each need a schedule of activities to keep their morale high. It need not be a rigid program. After all, a reason

for retiring is to gain that great flexibility, where you can call your time your own.

Husband and wife should make provision for taking trips, for having time together, and perhaps that new occasion where they eat lunch together. But there is a great wifely saying: "I married him for better or worse, for richer or poorer—but it didn't say anything about marrying him for lunch every day."

Still, it can be a great feeling to wake up and see that the rain is pouring down, and reflect that you don't necessarily have to leave home at all in that nasty weather. The same feeling can prevail when we have a snow storm, with schools closing. You don't have to turn on the radio to see if your place of business is open.

A useful slogan is: "Retire, but don't quit." Unless illness or infirmity dictate a limited pace, people will be happier when occupied. The time involved is less important than the fact that you spend it doing something.

In last month's column on financial preparations for retirement, the point was stressed: Start planning your retirement five or even 10 years in advance. The same point can be made about planning to keep yourself busy. If you've always thought that you had a lot of talent for becoming a lazy loafer overnight, you're riding for a fall. We all need something to do. And isn't it nice when we can set our own pace?

Some find their work in retirement both very pleasant and financially rewarding. The pleasant aspect is the key; there is no reason you should do something you hate just because you're making a little money on the side. But imagine the pleasure of combining pleasant activities with some extra "walking around money."

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These attractive note cards are being offered by the statewide women's committee of the North Carolina electric cooperatives to raise funds for the committee's scholarship program. Both feature full color images related to the 50th Anniversary of the rural electric program in 1985:





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Sampling A Chatham County Cookbook

The recipe below is from a cookbook published by Mt. Vernon United Methodist Church, Rt. 3, Siler City, to raise funds for church and community projects. The women of the 150-year-old church collected recipes from among the members and their families.

The 258-page softcover cookbook is priced at $7 each, including postage and handling. To order a copy, send check or money order to Mrs. Linda Fields, 811 Driftwood Drive, Siler City, NC 27344.

Ann Spencer's Chicken Casserole

6 chicken breast (filet)
1 pkg. dried beef
1 can mushroom soup
6 strips bacon
1/2 pt. sour cream

Place beef in bottom of baking dish. (You can use beef sandwich meat if desired to cut down on salt). Wrap each chicken breast with strip bacon. Place on top of beef. Mix soup and sour cream. Together spoon over each chicken breast covering each piece well. Cook *uncovered* about three hours at 300°F. Serves six.

A Summer Rerun: Hush Puppies

Mrs. Ella Faye Norris of Zionville, whose recipe for Hush Puppies appeared in the special "Country Kitchen" feature last month, wrote to point out a couple of errors in her recipe.

It called for too little cooking oil and failed to list eggs among the ingredients.

The following is a corrected version of the complete recipe:

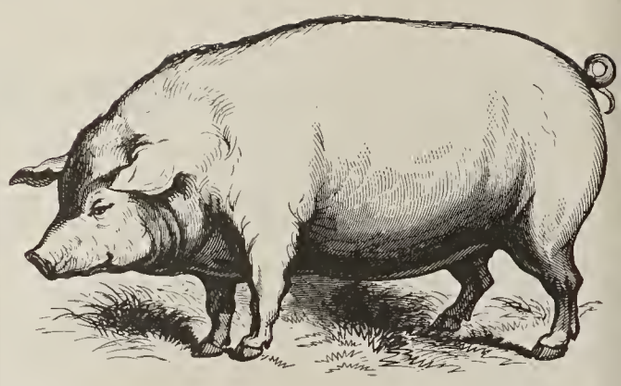


Hush Puppies

Submitted by Mrs. Ella Faye Norris, Zionville

1 C self-rising meal
1 C self-rising flour
1/2 C buttermilk
2 large eggs
1 large onion (chopped)
2 tsp. sugar
Dash of garlic
1/2 tsp. paprika
4 C cooking oil

In large bowl mix together meal, flour, buttermilk, eggs, onion, sugar, garlic and paprika. Bring 4 cups of cooking oil to a boil in a large Dutch Oven (cooker). Drop mixture by teaspoons-full in boiling oil until good and brown. (Makes 50 hush puppies).



These Hogs Shared The Summer Bounty

We used to throw the big ones to the hogs.

Down on the farm just a few years back, the summer garden was really something to behold. Imagine a two-acre green garden thriving in the summer sunshine, with irrigation water readily available from the well. You just turned on the electric pump for instant and inexpensive irrigation.

There were several rows of sweet corn. Cantaloupes. Snapbeans, sugar peas and green peas. Tomatoes, onions and bell peppers. Yellow squash. All this and much more.

When you were ready to cook some vegetables for the midday or evening meal, you'd pick what you needed just an hour or two before they were due to be served.

Just imagine sitting down to spread butter and salt on a fresh ear of sweet corn that was still in the garden only an hour before!

One problem was that it's hard to plant just the right amount of squash to feed a family, even if extra people drop in. Squash gets prolific in warm weather. So in this farm garden the single long row of squash was planted right near a strong wire fence. On the other side of the fence was the lot where the sows and the little pigs were kept.

Taking a basket to the garden to pick enough squash for a meal, you were very selective. You picked only the dainty small squash for your own use. The others became hog food. The big ones were thrown right over the fence. And the pigs—large and small—seemed to thoroughly enjoy their fresh squash.

—Frank Jeter Jr.

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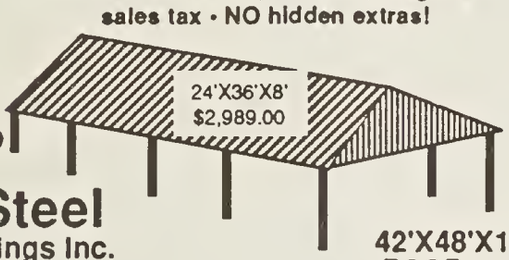
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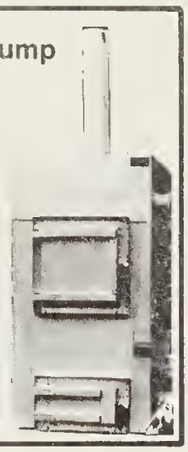
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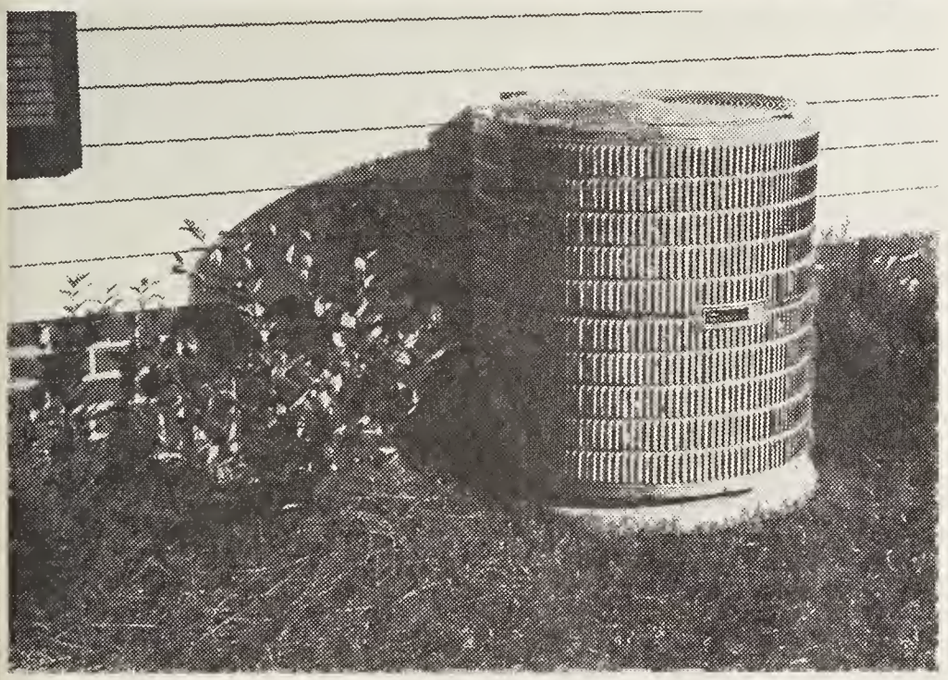
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Major Issues Now Emerging As Candidates Prepare To Go One-On-One

Just a few months ago, it looked as if Vice President George Bush would have an easy path through the election process on his way to the White House. After Super Tuesday, when all of the Southern states had their primaries, Bush was assured of the nomination and the Democrats seemed badly split.

Those circumstances, together with a strong economy and the nation at peace, seemed to give a green light to the Republican candidate.

The press had nicknamed the Democratic candidates the "Seven Dwarfs" and there wasn't a household word among them.

But things changed and Massachusetts Gov. Michael Dukakis emerged as a candidate to survive the primaries. One by one the others dropped out, leaving only Jesse Jackson to contest Dukakis until the convention could decide the issue.

And strangely enough, the polls showed that it isn't going to be a runaway election but a very close one—with neither party given an edge.

Political pros were surprised when polls taken in June actually showed Dukakis leading Bush by as much as 10 points, although that may reflect the fact that the race for the Democratic nomination continued longer and received more publicity. That will change when the race gets started after Labor Day.

When the debates begin, what issues will the candidates take up? Here are some of the key matters that will be argued in the coming months—possibly during the debates:

Drugs: Americans, say the polls, now consider the sale and use of illegal drugs the nation's number one problem. For some time, many regarded it as a problem only for places such as Miami and New York, but it has now spread to small towns and rural areas—and has reached down into the schools.

Questions are bound to be raised about how committed the Reagan administration has been in its fight against the drug smugglers and pushers and Bush, as the appointed head of the Reagan drug task force, will be sharply questioned.

Questions will also be raised about the administration's willingness to do business with drug dealers who were helping the American-backed Contras in the fight against the government of Nicaragua.

Defense: Bush will certainly charge that Dukakis is weak on defense matters, because the Democratic candidate has advocated doing away with some of the arms projects of the current White House.

The Vice President has harped on this in speeches since he was assured of the nomination, asserting that liberals have no conception of what it takes to defend the country.

Dukakis has called for an end to the MX missile, a ban on nuclear testing and has said he wants to further the arms control agreements that President Reagan has reached with the Soviets.

Bush is likely to take credit for being part of an administration which has gotten the first arms reduction agreement with the Russians.

The Democrats are sure to counter that this is a case of the Vice President grabbing Reagan's coattails.

Trade: The White House took a calculated political gamble when the President vetoed the Trade Bill which had passed Congress by a lopsided vote.

And the reason he gave for the veto—a provision that would require large businesses to give workers 60 days notice when a plant was to be closed—was viewed as a lack of compassion by some people. Bush supported the veto.

Dukakis immediately started hammering on this and it could be effective. After all, there was something in the bill for almost everyone—textile workers in the Carolinas, steel workers in the "rust belt," oil workers in Texas and shoe factory employees in New England and Missouri.

All this came in an atmosphere of a large trade imbalance with foreign countries, who freely sell their goods here while denying many American companies access in their markets.

Recent polls show that more people now think that Japan's incursion into American trade is a bigger threat than war with the Russians, which makes the issue very risky for the GOP.

The Gender Gap: Polls show that women feel they have not been treated fairly during the last eight years and that women tend to dislike the Reagan policies more than do men.

One thing they want is day care for children whose mothers work during the day. This has been opposed by the conservatives, and Phyllis Schlafley, a leader of the far right, says that getting the government involved in furnishing day care would "warehouse children and Sovietize them."

Dukakis has spoken out for day care but, given the budget deficit, it is doubtful the government can finance such a program. Most of the cost will have to be borne by the private sector.

In addition, many women are unhappy that the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) has been shelved. Bush, then, will have to make a special effort to win a sizable part of the women's vote, which is now larger than the men's.

Other issues will be argued as there are differences over caring for the homeless, the lack of public housing, who caused the deficit and the "sleaze factor" in the current administration.

WASHINGTON SCENE

One recent poll taken by the *New York Times* and CBS revealed one major problem for Bush. It showed that three out of every five Americans feel the Republican party favors rich people over middle class and poor people.

If that is true, said Mark Shields, a Washington political analyst, it leaves the Democrats an opening large enough to "march an inaugural parade through."

Bush's big effort will be to attract active support from the conservatives who worked and voted for Reagan. He has a start in that direction with the endorsement of the Rev. Jerry Falwell, founder and head of the Moral Majority.

Also, he will try to make an issue of the policies of Dukakis in Massachusetts and he may try to make Dukakis look like Jimmy Carter, a subject Bush raised from the beginning.

Dukakis will be trying to pin the unpopular Reagan policies on Bush.

Analysts say this one won't be affected by the charisma of either candidate because neither has much to offer. The appeal of a Kennedy or a Reagan is missing in 1988.

And, of course, there are always the unexpected things that come up to affect elections.

Analysts say this one won't be affected by the charisma of either candidate because neither has much to offer. The appeal of a Kennedy or a Reagan is missing in 1988.

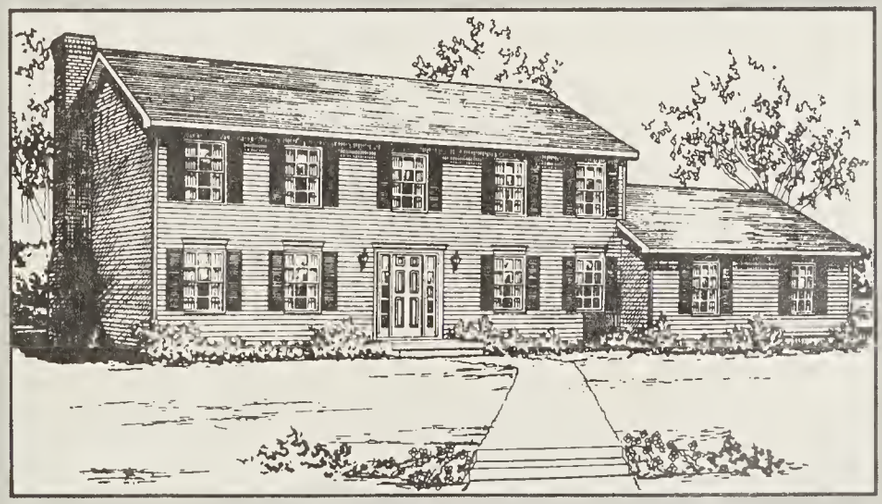
But one veteran politician says charisma doesn't always matter.

"Several years ago," he recalled, "John Lindsay was mayor of New York and he had all the charisma of a Kennedy or a Reagan. He was movie star handsome and great on the picture taking but the city wasn't being run too well.

"So a little, quiet Jewish auditor who worked for the city filed for mayor. And there were billboards all over New York that said 'Had Enough Charisma? Elect Abe Beame!' And Abe Beame was elected the next mayor of New York."

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As summer advances, harvesting increases in both the flower and vegetable garden. You'll want to harvest regularly to keep plants at their peak of production.

A careful daily inspection of the garden is important to detect problems from insects and diseases. It's best to start the control at the onstart of problems.

Calendulas

Calendulas perform best in cool weather. If spring-sown calendulas disappointed you, try another planting now—timed for fall bloom. If they bloom at all in summertime, flowers often are disappointing with imperfect single blooms.

Cool days bring on fine double blooms of rich orange, yellow, gold and buff. Frost-resistant, calendulas are about the last annuals cut down by freezes.

Watering Vegetables

Vegetable gardens do best if not watered every day—even during extended dry periods. The vegetables will do best if given a good, thorough soaking—four to six inches deep—every five to seven days. There will be an adequate amount of water if the soil is moistened down to about six inches. A vegetable garden area of a hundred square feet needs about sixty gallons for an adequate soaking.

After the soil is saturated with water, it will hold moisture better if given a good mulch. Apply a four- to six-inch layer of an organic mulch such as pine needles, composted leaves or general compost.

Summer Shrub Color

Shrubs that bloom in mid-summer are not as numerous as spring-flowering shrubs. Summer-bloomers include hypericum, buddleia, althea, mallow, hibiscus, abelia, vitex, crepe myrtle, hydrangea, gordonia and sourwood.

Mulch and Water

Recently set trees and shrubs should be well mulched and watered during summer. Such treatment may mean the difference between their healthy life and slow death. These plants are undergoing their most trying experience to overcome transplanting shock and become established.

Now's a good time to give trees and shrubs their last feeding of the summer. The plants have time to take up and utilize fertilizer in the formation of new growth which will mature before autumn's first cold spell. Use one or two pounds of complete fertilizer (8-8-8; 10-10-10) each hundred square feet. Don't overfertilize. To do so tends to damage plants.

Don't Shave Your Lawn

Lawns should be mowed often, but don't shave them. Grass can be literally cut to death during hot, dry periods of summer. Too-close mowing will injure the stand. The blade of the mower should be raised to cut at a height of at least two inches; three inches is not too high.

Dahlias

After their first crop of flowers, cut back dahlias to about half their growth and give them a light application of fertilizer.

Following this treatment, plants will branch and produce a good crop of fall blooms. To avoid crooked stems, plants should be staked.



Fall Vegetables

Starting vegetable plants during the latter part of July and early August is your best assurance of a good crop. You'll need to nurse the plants through until cool weather. This extra care consists of shading plants with newspaper during noon and early afternoon hours, and watering plants every two to three rainless days.

Okra, corn and melons should be planted now for maturity before frost. All short-season crops do well in the fall garden—peppers, cabbage, broccoli, onions, beets, tomatoes, mustard, radishes, lettuce, beans, carrots, cucumbers and spinach.

Tomatoes, peppers, cabbage and broccoli are best started indoors for subsequent transplanting outside. Sow seeds of other crops in the row where they are to grow. Keep soil moist for good germination and growth of seedlings. Fertilize lightly but frequently to keep plants growing with vigor.

By Hank Smith



Tree Care

Lack of water is the prime cause of mid-summer tree problems. Two symptoms are excessive leaf drop and stunted growth.

Water deeply these days, either with a watering rod stuck six to eight inches into the soil or by letting water trickle slowly from your water hose for a period of several hours.

Rose Care

Keep your rose garden clean of old foliage and weeds. These are breeding grounds for insects and diseases. Cut and burn infested rose stalks. Make cuts close to nodes or buds so they will heal fast.

Quick-Freeze Seed

Quick freezing of difficult-to-germinate perennials—peony, iris, most lilies, bleeding heart and hardy phlox (summer perennial phlox and wild sweet William)—encourages germination.

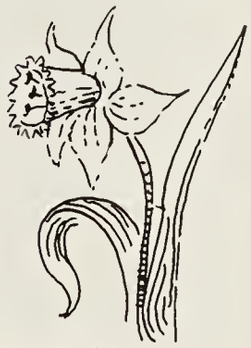
An easy way to quick-freeze: (1) half fill an ice tray with water; (2) freeze; (3) place seed over ice; (4) fill tray with water; (5) freeze entire ice cube; (6) keep frozen seven to ten days.

Thaw out and plant seed in potting soil in shallow flowerpots or a flat. Place outdoors to over-winter.

Next spring, the little plants can be transferred to the garden.

Late Annuals

Seed of these annuals may be planted now and still make bloom before frost: cosmos, marigold, ice plant, morning glory, torenia, vinca, balsam, petunia, portulaca and nicotiana (ornamental tobacco).



Daffodils

Those daffodils that need relocating should be dug before foliage is gone and they are difficult to find.



Annual Meetings Calendar

Date	Electric Membership Corporation	Time	Location
July			
15	Randolph, Asheboro	Registration: 6:30 p.m. Business Meeting: 8:00 p.m.	Southwestern Randolph High School Stadium, Asheboro
August			
18	Pee Dee, Wadesboro	Registration: 7:00 p.m. Business Meeting: 8:00 p.m.	Richmond Senior High School, Rockingham
27	Haywood, Waynesville	Registration: 8:30 a.m. Business Meeting: 10:00 a.m.	Tuscola High School, near Waynesville
27	Roanoke, Rich Square	Registration: 11:00 a.m. Business Meeting: 1:00 p.m.	EMC Headquarters Arena, Rich Square



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A Myth Is A Female Moth

The following "history" of the world came to me from a friend who had read it in a newsletter for teachers. It's something teachers can readily appreciate because it is based on student "bloopers" in history and English essays.

The piece was compiled by Richard Lederer, who apparently is a teacher. The newsletter identified him only as being with a St. Paul's School—without saying where that is.

This initial installment traces the development of civilization from Biblical times to the Renaissance era.

One of the fringe benefits of being an English or history teacher is receiving the occasional jewel of a student blooper in an essay. I have pasted together the following "history" of the world from certifiably geniune student bloopers collected by teachers throughout the United States, from eighth grade through college level. Read carefully and you may learn a lot:

The inhabitants of Egypt were called mummies. They lived in the Sarah Dessert and traveled by Camelot. The climate of the Sarah is such that the inhabitants have to live elsewhere, so certain areas of the dessert are cultivated by irritation. The Egyptians built the Pyramids in the shape of a huge triangular cube. The Pramids are a range of mountains between France and Spain.

The Bible is full of interesting caricatures. In the first book of the Bible, Guinesses, Adam and Eve were created from an apple tree. One of their children, Cain, asked, "Am I my brother's son?" God asked Abraham to sacrifice Issac on Mount Montezuma. Jacob, son of Issac, stole his brother's birthmark. Jacob was a patriarch who brought up his 12 sons to be patriarchs, but they did not take to it. One of Jacob's sons, Joseph, gave refuse to the Israelites.

Pharaoh forced the Hebrew slaves to make bread without straw. Moses led them to the Red Sea, where they made unleavened bread, which is bread made up without any ingredients. Afterwards, Moses went up on Mount Cyanide to get the 10 commandments. David was a Hebrew King skilled at playing the liar. He fought with the Philatelists, a race of people who lived in Biblical times. Solomon, one of David's sons, had 500 wives and 500 porcupines.

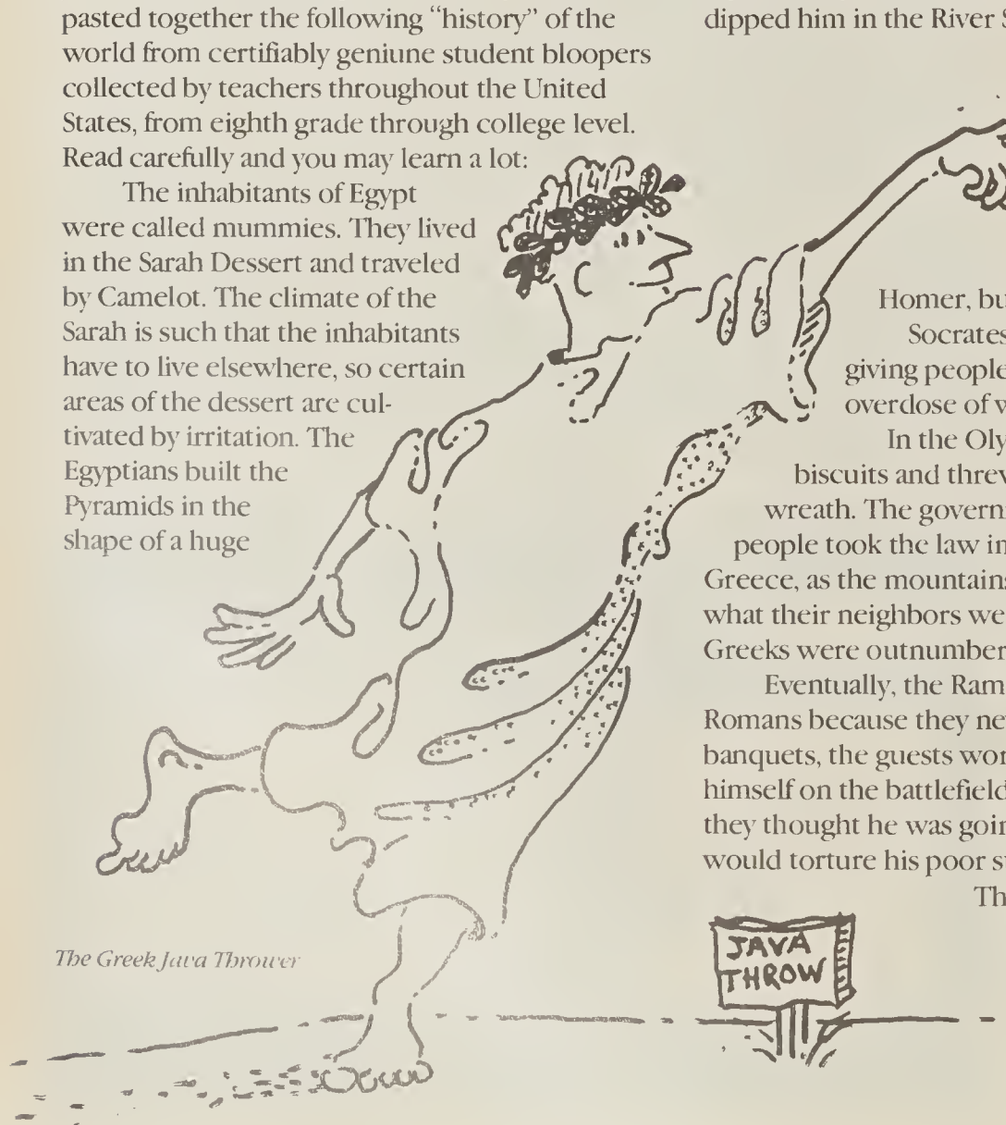
Without the Greeks, we wouldn't have history. The Greeks invented three kinds of columns—Corinthian, Doric and Ironic. They also had myths. A myth is a female moth. One myth says that the mother of Achilles dipped him in the River Stynx until he became intolerable. Achilles appears in "The Illiad," by Homer. Homer also wrote the "Oddity," in which Penelope was the last hardship that Ulysses endured on his journey. Actually, Homer was not written by Homer, but by another man of that name.

Socrates was a famous Greek teacher who went around giving people advice. They killed him. Socrates died from an overdose of wedlock.

In the Olympic Games, Greeks ran races, jumped, hurled the biscuits and threw the java. The reward to the victor was a coral wreath. The government of Athens was democratic because the people took the law into their own hands. There were no wars in Greece, as the mountains were so high that they couldn't climb over to see what their neighbors were doing. When they fought the Parisians, the Greeks were outnumbered because the Persians had more men.

Eventually, the Ramons conquered the Greeks. History call people Romans because they never stayed in one place for very long. At Roman banquets, the guests wore garlic in their hair. Julius Ceasar extinguished himself on the battlefields of Gaul. The Ides of March killed him because they thought he was going to be made king. Nero was a cruel tyrant who would torture his poor subjects by playing the fiddle to them.

Then came the Middle Ages. King Alfred conquered the Dames, King Arthur lived in the Age of Shivery, King Harlod mustarded his troups before the Battle of Hastings and Joan of Arc was cannonized by George Bernard Shaw. Finally, the Magna Carta provided that no free man should be hanged twice for the same offense.



The Greek Java Thrower

GRITS

By Owen Bishop

In midevil times most of the people were alliterate. The greatest writer of the time was Chaucer, who wrote many poems and verse and also wrote literature. Another tale tells of William Tell, who shot an arrow through an apple while standing on his son's head.

The Renaissance was an age in which more individuals felt the value of their human being. Martin Luther was nailed to the church door at Wittenberg for selling papal indulgencies. He died a horrible death, being excommunicated by a bull. It was the painter Donatello's interest in the female nude that made him the father of the Renaissance. It was an age of great inventions and discovies. Gutenberg invented the Bible. Sir Water Raleigh is a historical figure because he invented cigarettes. Another important invention was the circulation of blood. Sir Francis Drake circumcised the world with a 100-foot clipper.

The government of England was a limited mockery. Henry VIII found walking difficult because he had an abbess on his knee. Queen Elizabeth was the "Virgin Queen." As a queen she was a success. When Elizabeth exposed herself before her troops, they all went, "Hurrah." Then her navy went out and defeated the Spanish Armadillo.



A Defeated Spanish Armadillo

The greatest writer of the Renaissance was William Shakespear. Shakespear never had much money, and is famous only because of his plays. He lived in Windsor with his merry wives, writing tragedies, comedies and errors. In one of Shakespear's famous plays, Hamelot rations out his situation by releiving himself in a long soliloquy. In another, Lady Macbeth tries to convince Macbeth to kill the king by attacking his mannood. Romeo and Juliet are an example of a heroic couplet. Writing at the same time as Shakespear was Miguel Cervantes. He wrote "Donkey Hote." The next great author was John Milton. Milton wrote "Paradise Lost." Then his wife dies and he wrote "Paradise Regained."

(Continued next month)

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